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IN THE UNITED STATES

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Donald E. Burg      Serial Number: 10/602,181      Filed: June 23, 2003

Title: AIR LUBRICATED LIFTING BODY SHIP

Examiner: Stephen Avila      Art Unit: 3617      Attorney Docket No: 104-144

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION DATED MAY 24, 2004

Commissioner of Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please amend the subject application per the attached AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS.

REMARKS

This AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION DATED May 24, 2004 is timely filed. Four claims, numbers 6-8 and 14, have been canceled and no new claims have been added. Therefore there are no additional fees due.

Regarding items 1-3 of the Office Action, Applicant has amended base claims 1 and 12. Base claim 1 has been amended to include dependent claims 6-8 that describe a water propulsor with its inlets in a top surface of the lifting body and aft of a mid-point of the lifting body to thereby increase hydrodynamic lift of the lifting body by decreasing pressure over the top surface of the lifting body. Base claim 1 has also been amended to define the upper surface of the lifting body as being curvilinear in shape, as seen in a vertical transverse plane of the lifting body ship. This differs and improves over the